

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system in a queue server for controlling the printing of a document,

5 comprising:

a processor coupled to a local interface;

a memory coupled to the local interface; and

print queue logic stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the
print queue logic including logic to place a print job ticket received from a client in a
10 printing queue, the printing queue determined by information contained in the print job
ticket.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the printing queue is selected by
the queue server from a plurality of printing queues, each of the plurality of printing queues
15 logically associated with a print server and a corresponding printer.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the print job ticket is prioritized
among previously received print job tickets based on information contained in the print job
ticket.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the client generating the print job
ticket specifies a destination printer and the queue server places the print job ticket in a
printing queue associated with the specified destination printer.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein the print job ticket is prioritized
among previously received print job tickets based on information contained in the print job
ticket.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the information contained in the
30 print job ticket is at least one type of information selected from a client ID, a user ID, a
group ID, a destination printer, a document size, a document content, a billing information,
or a combination thereof.

7. A system in a queue server for controlling the printing of a document, comprising:

a processor coupled to a local interface;

5 a memory coupled to the local interface;

print job ticket processing logic stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the print job ticket processing logic including:

logic to parse a print job ticket received from a client; and

logic to update a statistical database with information contained in the

10 print job ticket.

8. The system according to claim 7, further comprising print queue logic stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the print queue logic including logic to place the print job ticket in a printing queue, the printing queue determined by information
15 contained in the print job ticket.

9. The system according to claim 7, wherein the information contained in the print job ticket is at least one type of information selected from a client ID, a user ID, a group ID, a destination printer, a document size, a document content, a billing information,
20 or a combination thereof.

10. The system according to claim 7, wherein content of the statistical database is used to generate a bill.

25 11. The system according to claim 7, wherein the content of the statistical database is used to generate a log of printing activity.

12. The system according to claim 7, wherein the print job ticket processing logic further includes logic to respond to a printing network administrator control command
30 or a client control command.

13. A method in a queue server for printing a document, comprising the steps of:
receiving a print job ticket from a client; and
placing the print job ticket in a printing queue, the printing queue determined
by information contained in the print job ticket.

14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of selecting
the printing queue from a plurality of printing queues, each of the plurality of printing
queues logically associated with a print server and a corresponding printer.

15. The method according to claim 13, wherein the print job ticket specifies a
destination printer and the queue server places the print job ticket in a printing queue
associated with the specified destination printer.

16. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of prioritizing
the print job ticket among previously received print job tickets based on information
contained in the print job ticket.

17. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the steps of:
parsing a print job ticket; and
updating a statistical database with information contained in the print job
ticket.

18. The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of generating
a bill from the content of the statistical database.

19. The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of generating
a log of printing activity from the content of the statistical database.

20. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of responding
to a printing network administrator control command or a client control command.